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HISTORY AND RESOURCES

OF

DAKOTA, MONTANA AND IDAHO

BY

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HISTORY OF DAKOTA, MONTANA AND IDAHO

History and Geography have been termed the two eyes of knowledge.

The great Territory of Dakota, as originally organized in 1861, extended from Minnesota on the east, to the Rocky mountains on the west, and from Iowa and Nebraska on the south, northward to the British Dominion, including the present Territory of Montana, and a large portion of Idaho.

In writing the early history of this vast region of Territory, it is not inappropriate to inquire who were its first discoverers and earliest inhabitants.

In doing this, we are obliged to rely, in a measure, upon the vague and mysterious traditions of the various tribes of Indians, who have inhabited this wild region of the continent, from time immemorial. The Indians of the Northwest have no written language—no history; and their only record of events of past centuries, through all their migrations, wars and alliances, is enclouded in a long series of signs, moons, and traditions. Even their knowledge of the date and manner of their own creation, is vague and uncertain. Some of them believe that the Great Spirit, created the red race on the very plains that they now inhabit. Other tribes have a sacred belief in the tradition that their ancestors came from the North, across a great water, to the region of their present hunting grounds; while still others claim that the red men came out of the earth in the form of turtles and snails, a great many centuries ago, and were transformed by the Great Spirit, into human beings.

The Red Pipestone Quarry, about thirty-five miles northeast from Sioux Falls, and one hundred miles from Yankton, is held among many tribes as the sacred birthplace of all the red people that now inhabit the earth. The following are some of their traditions.

Tradition of the wandering Sioux of the Plains:

"Before the creation of man, the Great Spirit (whose tracks are yet to be seen on the stones, at the Red Pipe,

in the form of the tracks of a large bird) used to slay the buffaloes and eat them on the ledge of the Red Rocks, on the top of the Coteau des Prairies, and their blood running on to the rocks, turned them red. One day when a large snake had crawled into the nest of the bird to eat his eggs, one of the eggs hatched out in a clap of thunder, and the Great Spirit, catching hold of a piece of the pipe stone to throw it at the snake, moulded it into a man. This man's feet grew fast in the ground, where he stood for many ages, like a great tree, and therefore he grew very old; he was older than an hundred men at the present day; and at last another tree grew up by the side of him, when a large snake ate them both off at the roots, and they both wandered off together; from these have sprung all the people that now inhabit the earth."

Tradition of Upper Missouri Indians:

"That in the time of a great freshet, which took place many centuries ago, and destroyed all the nations of the earth, all the tribes of the red men assembled on the Coteau du Prairie, to get out of the way of the waters. After they had all gathered here from all parts, the water continued to rise, until at length it covered them all in a mass, and their flesh was converted into red pipe stone. Therefore it has always been considered neutral ground—it belonged to all tribes alike, and all were allowed to get it and smoke it together.

"While they were all drowning in a mass, a young woman, K-wap-tah-w (a virgin), caught hold of the foot of a very large bird that was flying over, and was carried to the top of a high cliff, not far off, that was above the water. Here she had twins, and their father was the war eagle and her children have since peopled the earth.

"The pipe stone, which is the flesh of their ancestors, is smoked by them as a symbol of peace, and the eagle's quill decorates the head of the brave."

Tradition of Mississippi River Indians:

"Many ages after the red men were made, when all the different tribes were at war, the Great Spirit sent runners

and called them all together at the red pipe. He stood on the top of the rocks, and the red people were assembled in infinite numbers on the plains below. He took out of the rock a piece of the red stone and made a large pipe, and smoked it over them all; told them it was part of their flesh; that though they were at war, they must meet at this place as friends; that it belonged to them all; that they must make their calumets from it and smoke them to him whenever they wished to appease him or get his good will—the smoke from his big pipe rolled over them all, and he disappeared in its cloud; at the last whiff of his pipe a blaze of fire rolled over the rocks, and melted their surface—at that moment two squaws went in a blaze of fire under the two medicine rocks, where they remain to this day, and must be consulted and propitiated whenever the pipe stone is to be taken away."

Tradition of Indians on the Lower Missouri:

"Here (according to their traditions), happened the mysterious birth of the red pipe, soon after the creation of red men, which has blown its fumes of peace and war to the remotest corners of the Continent; which has visited every warrior, and passed through its reddened stem the irrevocable oath of war and desolation. And here also, the peace breathing calumet was born, and fringed with the eagle's quills, which has shed its thrilling fumes over the land, and soothed the fury of the relentless savage.

"The Great Spirit at an ancient period, here called the Indian nations together, and standing on the precipice of the red pipe stone rock, broke from its wall a piece, and made a huge pipe by turning it in his hand, which he smoked over them, and to the North, the South, the East, and the West, and told them that this stone was red—that it was their flesh—that they must use it for their pipes of peace—that it belonged to them all, and that the war-club and scalping knife must not be raised on its ground. At the last whiff of his pipe his head went into a great cloud, and the whole surface of the rock for several miles was melted and glazed; two great ovens were opened beneath, and two women (guardian spirits of the place), entered them in a

blaze of fire; and they are heard there yet (Tso-mec-cos-tee and Tso-me-cos-te-won-dee), answering to the invocations of the high priest or medicine-men, who consult them when they are visitors to this sacred place."

Near this spot, also, on a high mound, is the "Thunder's nest," (nid-due-Tonnere), where "a very small bird sits upon her eggs during fair weather, and the skies are rent with bolts of thunder at the approach of a storm, which is occasioned by the hatching of her brood.

The Great Osage Nation, which dwelt upon the lower Missouri in the 17th century, believed in a tradition that the first man was a snail, which the high floods swept out onto the dry sands of the Missouri, where the sun warmed it into a man. This man went wandering, naked on the plain, and was soon overtaken by hunger and fatigue; when happily the Great Spirit appeared and gave him a bow and arrow, and showed him how to kill and cook deer, and to cover himself with the skin. The Osage then became married to a beaver, from which strange wedlock sprang all the people of the Wabasha nation.

It is a remarkable fact that a close analysis of all these seemingly hollow traditions, points us back to the period of Adam and Eve, and the days of the flood, by which it is pretty clearly established that the primitive tribes of the northwest migrated from Eastern Asia, and in their early drifting, like sea foam, across the northwestern waters, they brought with them a glimmer of civilized history, which long since vanished into tradition, on the chase and warpath of the wilderness.

The earliest historical record which we have of these Indians of North America, is found among the Icelandic and Danish authorities, wherein it is claimed that in the year 986, Eric Rauda, emigrated from Iceland to Greenland, and formed a settlement of Northmen. No mention is made, however by these adventurous Northmen, of the appearance of natives on the shore of North America, until 1004, when Thorwald, the son of Eric—Earl of Norway—while sailing along the coast between Newfoundland and Greenland, dis-

covered three canoes upon the beach, and under each canoe three (Esquemaux,) called by the Northmen Skroelings. A contest ensued, and eight of the nine natives were killed. The ninth fled into the back ground of the bay and soon returned with a vast number of his people, whereupon the party of Northmen retreated to their vessels and set sail to the Southward, Thorwald being fatally wounded by an arrow. In 1005, Thornstein, the brother of Thorwald, set sail for the new found land, with his wife, Gudrida, the first white woman known in history, as having visited the shores of America, and who three years after her arrival gave birth to the first child of European descent born in the New World.

In 1007, Thornfim, a wealthy personage, descended from Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Irish and Scottish ancestors, arrived off the coast of New England, (near Mount Hope Bay,) with two ships and 140 men and women. Here they discovered fields covered with wheat growing wild, and they were visited by great numbers of the natives in canoes who were described as a sallow-colored, ill looking race of people, with long hair, large eyes, and broad cheeks. In 1011, a quarrel was incited by Frydesia, daughter of Eric, which proved fatal to a large number of the colonists. From this period the Northmen appear to have become estranged and lawless, and amalgamated with the wild natives of the country. In 1026, Gudlief, an Icelandic navigator, who was driven upon this unknown shore, was seized, with his crew, by the natives, and carried into the interior, where they were accosted by a venerable Chief speaking their own language, who inquired after certain individuals in Norway.

The natives were described at that date of a red color, and very cruel to strangers.

From this period we hear no more of this northern colony until 1059, when a Saxon Priest, named Jon, who was sent out as a missionary to the colonists, arrived and was murdered by the heathens.

In 1021, the Bishop of Greenland undertook the same voyage, for the same purpose, but both his success and fate are undetermined by history. From this period until the

discovery of America by Columbus in 1492, there is no historical mention of the early colonists or natives of North America.

In the early part of the Fourteenth century, according to numerous and accredited authorities, Prince Madoc, or Madawe, from North Wales, set sail with ten ships and a large colony of his countrymen, who are supposed to have landed somewhere on the coast of North America. None of the colonists have ever returned to their own country. The best authorities have been only able to trace them to the mouth of the Mississippi River; but according to the history and poetry of their own country, this colony settled somewhere in the interior of North America, where they are yet remaining, intermingled with the savage tribes.

Catlin, the artist, who ascended the Missouri river thirty-two years ago, holds that he traced the journeyings and ancient fortifications of this colony, from the river Ohio to the old Mandan village in Dakota Territory.

This traveler also suggests the belief that the Mandan tribe of Indians are the descendants of Prince Madaw's colony, and supports the theory by giving a long list of similar words used in both the Welch and Mandan languages, as well also as the many civilized customs, and works of hand found to exist among the Mandans. He says: "scarcely a day in the summer when a visitor to their villages would not see the women at work with their hands and fingers, moulding clay into wares, cups, pitchers, and pots, and baking them in their little kilns, under the sides of the river banks."

He also mentions the fact of their having a secret art of manufacturing a beautiful kind of blue glass beads, which curiosity was mentioned by Lewis and Clark sixty years ago, "at a time when no traders or other white people had been among the Mandan's, to have taught them so curious an art." Catlin infers that the Mandans must have warred their way against the Sioux to their present location on the Missouri river.

The first mention we have of the Dakota family of Indians, is by Nicolet, a public man who had been sent out

by the Government at Quebec, to treat with certain tribes of the western Indians, as early as 1639, the same year the settlers of New Haven formed themselves into a body politic. This adventurous man visited a tribe called Ounipegon (Winnebago) signifying "a people who came from a distant sea."

Two years elapsed, and in 1641, Jogues and Raymbault, of the Society of Jesus, after a voyage of seventeen days over tempestuous waves, arrived among the Ojibways of Lake Superior, by whom they were informed that eighteen days journey to the west of them lived a powerful nation known as the "Nadouechiouch," "Nadsuessiouex," (meaning "enemy") —but subsequently designated by the abbreviation—"Scioux, or Sioux," and now correctly called Dakotas, meaning the "friendly nations" in consequence of alliances formed among them, at a late period, after the long and bloody wars with the Algonquins.

In the year of 1654, two young Canadian traders, engaged in the fur business, accompanied a party of Indians to the far off prairies of the west, and were probably the first white men who entered the present Territory of Dakota.

In 1659 the traders revisited the land of the Dakotas to trade with the natives, and such was their success that in the year 1660 they returned to Quebec, with sixty canoes, manned by Indians, and ladened with beaver, fox and buffalo robes. The following is the Ojibway's tradition of the appearance of the two first white men in the Dakota country.

"A party of Indians who were spearing fish through the holes in the ice, discovered a smoke arising from the eastern extremity of an island which was then seldom visited. Proceeding in that direction they found, in a rough cabin, two white men, in the last stage of starvation. Crossing the lake late in the fall they had been driven by the ice, on to the island, and not knowing that any human beings were near, they had almost perished and had been reduced to the necessity of roasting and eating their clothes and blankets."

During Henepin's first voyage up the Mississippi in canoes, in 1680, he was visited by "four savages who said

they were come alone fifteen hundred miles from the West, and had been four months on the way." Henepin was further informed by these Indians, that the country through which they had passed had no large lakes, and but very few forests, and that all the rivers came down from the north. On this information the explorer says: "I may yet be transported into the Pacific sea by rivers which are capable of carrying great vessels, and from thence it is very easy to go to China and Japan, without crossing the equinoctial line, and in all probability Japan is on the same Continent as America."

Hence, we perceive that all the earliest traditions and authorities point to the north and west as the verge of continent upon which first appeared the North American Indians. It is fair to presume that the natives of the eastern empires of Asia, coasting along the shores of China, Japan, and Tartary, should point their light boats across the narrow span of Behring's strait, which connects Asia and America by a neck of water less than forty miles in width. Even the customs, habits, features and language of many of the North American tribes go far toward proving the fact of their having wandered across the seas, from their primitive stock on the coast of Asia. The Rocky or "Shining Mountains," of the west were in all probability peopled before the Alleganies of the east.

Early Explorations.

De Soto, in 1541, is the first white man known in history as having discovered the great river Mississippi. It was again visited by Marquette and Jolliet in 1673, who entered it by the way of the Wisconsin, and in 1680, Henepin ascended the same river in canoes to a point above the present city of St. Paul, where he discovered and named the St. Peter river, and Falls of St. Anthony. The mouth of the river Mississippi was discovered by LaSalle in 1683, who came over the great Lakes from Canada, descended the Illinois to the Mississippi, and thence floated in small row-boats to the Gulf of Mexico.

While these early footprints of civilization were being traced in the great valley of the Mississippi, the Spanish navigator, Viscaino, in 1602, visited the northwest shore of the continent, and had ascended as far north as the 43d parallel, by virtue of which discovery, Spain laid claim to all the country between the Mississippi and the Pacific.

Spanish authorities claimed that long before the discovery of the Mississippi river or Rocky Mountains by other nations, vessels from Spain had visited the Pacific shore of America, and had pushed as far north as the then unknown river in Oregon, which, from the belief that there was no large river in that latitude, was put down as "Deception Bay." In 1792, the American ship Columbia, commanded by Capt. Gray, entered a great opening in the northwest coast, and ten miles from the sea the crew filled their casks with fresh water, when for the first time this early navigator was convinced that he was in the channel of a great river, which he named from his ship, Columbia. The whole northwest country was then known as Louisiana Territory, and extended an "indefinite distance to the northward."

With regard to the Indian tribes that inhabited this vast region of the continent at that time, it is claimed by Shea, Schoolcraft and others that the great race of "Sioux" together with the Hurons, Iroquois, Winebagoes, Wyandotts, Illinois, Sacs and Foxes, roamed and warred in all the country from the Ohio river northward to the Lakes, and westward to the Mississippi.

It is claimed by other writers and travelers that these tribes are all families of the great Dakota nation, and that these Indians were monarchs of the region of country surrounding the great Lakes of the north, between the rivers Ohio and Mississippi, while the whole Algonquin race which roamed the Atlantic coast, were at war with the nation of Dakotas on the upper Mississippi tributaries, and Jonathan Carver, who visited the Sioux in their northern home, in 1766, says the Dakotas had a tradition that their ancestors came to this country from the north across a great water, being driven in war from their native land. From this

tradition he infers that the Dakotas were once inhabitants of China and Tartary, till distressed and vanquished in the Asiatic wars, they sought refuge upon the islands of the North Sea, and from thence voyaged in rude boats to the land of America. This theory in the origin of races, he affirms, is rendered plausible by the striking similarity in the languages of the two people.

This period of this transmigration from the north is said to have been a great many generations ago, at least before the discoveries of Columbus.

Nearly two centuries had passed when the long and bloody war between the Algonquin and Dakota races was brought to a successful termination by the introduction into the Algonquin army, of firearms, steel arrows and battle axes, by Canadian traders. Before these new implements of death the flinthead arrows and wooden war clubs of the Dakotas proved to be ineffectual, and the great nation, defeated and pursued, struck their tents and council fires, and fled to the regions of the setting sun.

Concerning the tribes that inhabited Dakota prior to that bloody era, nothing is definitely known. Tradition says that the Sheyennes (Shiens or Dog Indians) were once a powerful nation, and were the first race of people who migrated to the Missouri valley; that after having been repeatedly driven down from the regions of the north, they located on a western tributary of the Red river, where the blood poured out in battle against their invading foes, mingling with the waters of a northern stream changed its hue and gave it the name of the blood colored or Red River of the North. Again they were defeated, and again they struck their tents and fled with the bleeding remnants of their tribe across the northern plains of Dakota, and formed a new home on a stream that enters the Missouri from the west, which they called the Sheyenne.

With regard to the primitive tribes of southern Dakota, Charlevoix relates that nearly two centuries ago, the Iowas, Omahas, and Ottoes were in possession of this portion of our territory, and roamed and warred through the regions

watered by the Des Moines, Big Sioux, and James, and that these tribes annually assembled in peace around their sacred council fires at the Great Red Pipestone Quarry.

From here they were afterwards driven south and west by the great nation of Dakotas moving down from the north like a mighty army, and covering the whole plain with their tents and war dances.

The period of this great retrocession of Indian nations, Henepin informs us, was sometime before the seventeenth century, or over 200 years ago. Up to that era the Dakotas had remained as one nation, governed by one tongue, and were called the Nadoaessioux (meaning enemy); from the latter termination of which word is derived the abbreviation, "Sioux." But during the great war and flight from the north, they had become disbanded and scattered into separate war parties, and in order to be distinguished from other tribes of the plain, they now call themselves Dakotas, meaning the "friend born," or, "friendly people."

Since that period, both history and tradition agree in placing the Dakotas as sovereigns of the vast region of country between the Mississippi and the Mountains.

James, in his history of Long's expedition says, it is unknown how long the Omahas have resided on the Missouri river. Burgmont in 1724 makes no mention of these Indians being found in the Missouri valley. It would seem that they had separated from the great migrating nation, on or near the Mississippi river, and had since passed slowly across the country until they struck the Missouri, near the mouth of the Big Sioux river. Carver found them in 1766, on the St. Peters river, associated with the Shyennes. During the journeyings of the great Dakota nation, another band separated from them and received the name of Pa-ha-jo, (Grey Snow) or Ioway Indians; and still another tribe withdrew under the head of Ottoes, or wife stealers, because in departing they had carried off a large number of Dakota women. This tribe, with the Ioway's journeyed to the Missouri and built their ancient villages near old Council Bluff. They afterwards separated, and the Ioways went

back to the Des Moines river. The Winnebagoes, or Fish Eaters, broke off from the parent tribe and settled on the margin of a lake east of the Mississippi, from whence they passed slowly down the Wisconsin river to old Prairie du Chien. This tribe has since been removed, by successive treaties, to their present location in Nebraska.

The great Omaha Nation erected their ancient village of 300 huts, on a small stream known as Maha creek, a few miles below Sioux City, on the opposite side of the river. Here they were visited by the ravages of the small pox, in the early part of the present century, which destroyed over 600 men, women and children. They had been a military and powerful people, but when their warriors saw their strength wasting away before a malady they could not resist, they became like madmen. They burned their village, and some of them shot their wives and children, and others leaped into the deep channel of the Missouri to cool the burning disease, and float to some better land. In their frantic flight, it is said that a band of Poncas withdrew and settled in the country about the Running Water.

The Yanktons, at this early day, were dwellers in the region lying between the Big Sioux and the James, and were known as the "tribe that lives at the end," and is believed to have been the frontier band of the great Dakota Nation. All the tribes to the northwest of them were called "those who came over the mountains from the sea."

Spain still contended for all the Territory between the Mississippi and the Mountains, by virtue of early discovery from the west. The country was still called Louisiana Territory, and extended an indefinite distance to the north. French traders however, soon entered the country and held it by right of possession. In 1762, France ceded the whole territory to Spain, and in 1800, Spain retroceded the same country to France, by which Government it was, in 1803, transferred to the United States for $15,000,000.

At that early day the whole northwest territory did not comprise 1000 white inhabitants, and the only footprints of civilization from the Lakes to the Mountains, were the

few small trading posts at points where now stand, among others, the cities of Detroit, Milwaukee, Chicago, and Astoria on the Pacific coast. St. Louis was a promising frontier village, and the early navigators of the Missouri river, in 1803, make mention of a settlement of seven poor families, a few miles above the mouth of the river, which was the only establishment of white people in the Missouri valley. Prior to this, in 1787, the "Territory Northwest of the River Ohio," lying east of the Mississippi, was, by act of Congress, framed into a separate Territory, which in 1800 was divided into the territories of Indiana and Illinois, and in 1805 the Territory of Michigan was established with Detroit as the seat of Government. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803, that great Territory west of the Missouri, was divided, and all South of the 39° called the Territory of "New Orleans."

During the administration of Jefferson, in 1804-5, the President and Congress empowered a party of explorers to cross the continent by way of the Missouri river and the Rocky Mountains, and report to the Government the result of their discoveries and research.

Captain Merriwether Lewis was selected to lead this little band of forty-two men through 3,000 miles of wilderness swarming with powerful tribes of defiant Indians.—They started from St. Louis, in open sail boats, on the 14th of May, 1804, and on the 21st of August they reached the Big Sioux river, the present eastern boundary of Dakota. They came as the first party of explorers that ever ascended the Missouri river, and their journal affords to the world the earliest written history of this great valley of the north west. Many curiosities and superstitions are mentioned as having existed among the Indians of this country at that early day.

The first object of superstition which excited their curiosity in this portion of our Territory, was Spirit Hill, in Clay county, about nine miles northwest of the present town of Vermillion, and was pointed out to them by the Yanktons, who then inhabited this country. The party were

entreated by the Indians to land their boats at the mouth of the Vermillion, and go with them to witness the abode of little spirits. They set out on foot, and the heat of the day being oppressive, it was not until after four hours travel that they reached the object of wonder, which consisted of a steep high hill, standing alone in the middle of a smooth level prairie.

Captain Lewis then proceeded to make careful measurement of its height, length, breadth, base and apex, and finally declared it to be nothing more than a natural but remarkable mound, whose lone blue outlines can be seen at a distance of thirty miles to the north.

The journal states it had long remained a great object of dread among all the surrounding tribes, who believed it to be the abode of little devils in human form, of about eighteen inches in height, and having remarkable large heads. The tradition is, that three Maha boys once fell impaled by the arrows of these little spirits while attempting to climb the hill and survey the distant prairie in search of the Yanktons council fires.

The incident had inspired all the roving bands with such terror, that no inducement could tempt them to visit the mysterious hill.

On the morning of the 26th the party rejoined their boats, and on the following day passed the mouth of the Yankton, or James river, near which an Indian swam to the boat, and informed them that a large body of Sioux were encamped in their immediate vicinity. Three men, with an interpreter, M. Durion, were dispatched to the Sioux camp, while the boats proceeded on about eleven miles, where, on a beautiful plain near Calumet Bluff, (above Yankton) the party encamped and waited the arrival of the Sioux. Here they prepared a speech and some presents, and at 12 o'clock the chiefs and warriors of the Yanktons arrived, and were received in council under a large oak tree, near to which the American flag was flying. This was near three score years ago, when the little band of American adventurers first flung to the breeze of an unknown wild the Star

Spangled Banner of their country, on the spot where now stands the Capital of our young and thriving Territory.

Here brave warriors assembled to recount their deeds of valor and smoke their pipes of peace; here the maids of the prairies danced upon our village green, and told their vows of love; here their graves are found in tree-tops and plain, warrior and maiden, the crumbling tombstones of a departed people; here was found the father of the present chief of the Yanktons—Strike-the-Ree—and although a young man, he delivered a sensible speech in the council with Lewis and Clark; here, too, is found the grave of the old Canadian, Durion, upon the crumbling scaffold on the little hillock at the foot of Maple street, where he died and was laid to rest by the Indians near half a century ago,—

> There has he slumbered on his scaffold tomb,
> Through fifty years of storm and summer moon;
> There let him rest, for first was he to die,
> Of all the white race, 'neath Dakota's sky.

These early navigators of the Missouri were here delighted with the country, and here, for the first time in their voyage, nature seems to have burst in romantic beauty on their view, and they ascended the shores and encamped at sunset on the verge of the vast luxuriant plains where roamed, unscared, the prowling wolf, and screaming wild-fowl and dauntless red-man, and as the burnished sun sank serenely in the distant west, it seemed to be leading the glowing pathway to future empire. Here the little party stretched their wearied limbs upon the earth for a night's rest, and were quietly lulled to sleep by the musical roar of untrammeled rivers and the harmless song of the native war dance; and when the morning sunlight flooded the great landscape, glittering with dews and flowers, and shining plains, and majestic rivers, they went on their way rejoicing that this, too, was a part of their own free country.

On the first day of September they arrived at Bon Homme Island, and gave the day to examining an old fortification on the south side of the river, which they

believed to be the work of an ancient and warlike people. They proceeded to make a careful measurement of the ground work of the fort, and noted the bearings, distances and dimensions of the angles, walls and gates. Opposite the fortification, and located upon the Island, they discovered what they pronounced a citadel, presenting a circular form and inclosed by a wall about six feet in height. After having completed their reconnoisance of the work, the journal adds: "These are the first remains of the kind we have had an opportunity of examining, but our interpreter assures us that there are great numbers of them on the Platte and James rivers."

None of these ancient fortifications are now known to exist in this country. On the 2d September they passed on and encamped at the foot of Sugar Loaf Hill, opposite the Yankton Agency, and on the following day they visited the well known village of Prairie Dogs, near Fort Randall.

This little cur was an object of great curiosity to them, and they finally succeeded in capturing one by pouring five barrels of water into his burrow and drowning him out, together with two frogs, a lizard, and a dark rattlesnake which had swallowed a young prairie dog. After making this strange acquaintance with the quadruped race, they passed on to a point below Cedar Island, where, on a hill to the south of the river, they discovered the back bone of a great fish forty-five feet long, and in a perfect state of petrifaction, fragments of which were collected and sent to Washington.

On the 20th, they reached the Great Bend of the Missouri river, and encamped for the night on a sand bar; but shortly after midnight were startled by the sergeant on guard crying out that the bar was sinking, and scarcely had they pushed off in their boats, when the ground on which they had been sleeping, sank beneath the water. Resuming their journey on the next day, a man was sent to step off the distance across the head of the bend, who made it but one mile and a quarter, whereas the boats were obliged to traverse a circuit of thirty miles. On the 22d they passed the Cedar Islands, known as the Three Sisters, on one of which they discovered the remains of an old Spanish trading post, built by Mr. Loisal, some years before, to trade with the Sioux.

Passing the present site of Fort Pierre, they arrived on the 28th October, at the old Mandan villages, and proceeded to the erection of huts and fortifications for their winter quarters.

In these they passed the long and snowy months in 1805, shut up in the midst of an unknown wild, and removed a thousand miles from civilization; and when Christmas and New Years came, they assembled around a festive board, spread with dishes of wild game, which, in the morning, had been scaling the plain and singing in the forest.

On the 7th of April, they bid adieu to their winter homes and set out to continue their long and devious way mountainward, and on the 13th of June they discovered the Great Falls of the Missouri, near the western boundary of the originally organized Territory of Dakota. The sound of the falls was heard at a distance of seven miles, coming from the direction of a rising column of mist and spray, ascending high into the air like a cloud of smoke. Toward this object they eagerly hurried on, and soon arrived at the foot of the great cataract, reaching for a quarter of a mile across the river, and falling in one broad unbroken sheet of water down a precipice of thirty feet. Here they hastily ascended the bank and stood, the first navigators in those waters, entranced with the music of the foaming cataract, which had there for ages, been lavishing its beauties upon the desert and rolling its thunders through mountain and plain.

There hung the old eagle's nest on the tree at the foot of the falls, shrouded in the mists of time, where it had stood as the superstitious landmark of former generations; and there, too, our little party encamped within view of the snow-clad mountains rising in the distance, while surrounded by the verdure of summer and the chorus of new discovered waters; and there they celebrated the Fourth of July in honor of their country's freedom, by unfurling a national flag, firing a salute, and dancing to the music of the fiddle till late in the hours of night. There, also, the wild tribes had assembled and pictured their legends of love, war and romance, and had drawn their tradition, like the tribes who early lived at the Falls of St. Anthony, that a beautiful

wife, despised and forsaken, was once seen in the grey dawn of morning, with her child clinging around her neck, standing in her light canoe, darting through the spray and foam of the falls, over which she was precipitated and dashed to death on the rocks. A modern poet has woven the legend into verse, from which I extract the following:

Long ere the white man's eye had seen,
These flower-decked prairies far and wide—
Long ere the white man's bark had been
Borne on the western river's tide—

So long ago, Dakota's say,
An-pe-tu-sa-pa-win, was born;
Her eye beheld those scenes so gay,
First opening on life's rosy morn.

He, whose smile as life she prized,
Sought newer love and fresher charms,
And she, forsaken and despised,
Beheld him in a rival's arms.

Long had she hid her anguish keen,
When on yon green and sloping shore,
The wild Dakota's tent was seen,
With strange devices painted o'er.

An-pe-tu-sa-pa-win was there,
Painting her face with colors gay;
And her loved boy wore in his hair,
Flowers, as 'twere a gala day.

See! she has seized her light canoe,
And grasps, with haste, the slender oar,
Her boy is kissed upon his brow,
And thus, in tears, she leaves the shore,

The quivering bark like lightning flies,
Urged by the wave and bending oar,—
See! eager death exulting cries,
"No power on earth can save her now."

With gentle words and soothing tone,
She strives the timid child to cheer,
And then she raises her death song
Above the tumult, shrill and clear.

That song has ceased—the dark abyss
Swallows with haste, its willing prey;
The bubbling waters round them hiss—
Mother and child have passed away.

Yet that death song they say is heard,
Above the gloomy water's roar,
By lonely travelers there allured,
When darkness broods o'er wave and shore.

Leaving this interesting spot, the party arrived, on the 12th of August, at the great range of the Rocky Mountains, and stood with enthusiasm around the little spring from which came bubbling the remotest waters of the Missouri. "They had now reached the hidden source of that river which had never before been seen by civilized man; and as they quenched their thirst at the chaste and icy fountain; as they sat down by the brink of the rivulet which yielded its distant and modest tribute to the parent ocean, they felt themselves rewarded for all their labors and all their difficulties." Proceeding forward, they crossed the Rocky Mountains on foot and horseback; built canoes and descended the Columbia to the Pacific, where they passed the winter of 1805-6, among tribes of Indians speaking a jargon of languages, and living in earthen and wooden huts like the natives of India and Tartary.

A curious object of wonder, which at that early date, was found to exist among the wild tribes of western Dakota, was the voice of the Great Spirit, which they declared

could be heard like reports of artillery, among the mountains and Black Hills, during different parts of the day and night, and when the air was perfectly still and cloudless.

The Poncas and Rickarees gave the most vivid description of these strange noises, coming from the Black mountains, which resembled precisely the report of a six pound piece of ordnance at the distance of three miles, and which they believed to be the voice of the Great Spirit revealing the localities of rich mines of silver.

Later explorations in this and other countries, however, prove that these explosions are not merely objects of early superstition, but important realities, which will yet reveal incalculable wealth in our Territory. Mr. Hunt, in his passage through the Black Hills, corroborated by Humbolt and LaFond, in their mountain travels, makes mention of these mountain reports being heard in the most calm and serene weather, and state that they may be accounted for by a disengagement of hydrogen from beds of subterranean coal. But Vasconell, in his travels through the Brazillian mountains, was startled by one of these strange noises, resembling the simultaneous discharge of many pieces of artillery, and in a few days his Indians found a spot in the direction of the report, where a rock had burst, and from its interior was thrown to light a little treasure in the shape of a hollow stone nut, about the size of a beef's heart, and filled with jewelry of various colors and all of great value. The rich mines of gold, silver and coal, now being opened by thousands of people in that mountain region which was formerly a portion of Dakota, prove with what accuracy those early explorers predicted the wealth of our Territory.

In 1763, Canada passed under the control of the English, and as early as 1787, McKenzie, of the old Hudson Bay Company, chartered by Charles II in 1669, led the first party of white men across the continent, from the Canada border to the Pacific, north of latitude 54°.

The old northwest boundary of 49°, between the United States and Great Britain, was proposed in the early part of the present century, and a long diplomatic controversy ensued as to the rights of discovery and occupation of the

territory south of 49°—both McKenzie, and Lewis and Clark claiming to have established trading posts, with the flag of their country, in the Rocky Mountains in 1806.

Soon after the expedition of Lewis and Clark, American traders and adventurers became induced to penetrate the wilderness and establish their posts along the river to traffic in furs with the neighboring bands of Indians. All their goods for the trade were transported up the valley on pack horses or in rude boats propelled by oars and wind, and cordelled over the bars by means of long ropes attached to the boats and drawn by men walking on shore. In the spring they would return to St. Louis with their furs and peltries, usually traveling in circular skin boats, built like a tub, with which they could follow the channel regardless of wind, snags, or darkness.

In 1808, the Missouri Fur Company was formed at St. Louis, with Manuel Lisa (a Spaniard) at the head, and within two years was erected the first permanent trading posts in the country drained by the Missouri river.

John Jacob Astor, in 1809, obtained a charter for a company under the head of the American Fur Company, which in 1811, was merged into an association with certain parties of the Northwest Company, who then bought out the Macinac Company, under the name of the Southwest Company, which was suspended in the war of 1812, and finally terminated by act of Congress in 1815. Mr. Astor again embarked in the enterprise under the auspices of the Great Pacific Company, and in 1810-11, his first overland fur party, headed by Hunt, Crooks and McLellan, voyaged in oar boats up the Missouri to the Arickaree village, and from thence passed across the country by way of the Black Hills, Wind river and Rocky Mountains, to Astoria on the Pacific coast; having met with the most unparalleled sufferings ever endured by any party of adventurers in the northwest Territories. In 1821, the Northwest Company associated with the Hudson Bay Company, whose itinerant traders had, for many years, annually visited the northern tributaries of the Missouri and Yellow Stone.

During the two years that followed there appears to have been no direct intercourse between the States and the Mountain region; but in 1823, Mr. Ashley made a successful trip to the Pacific; and in 1826, the Rocky Mountain Fur Company commenced regular expeditions to the head waters of the Missouri. The old American Fur Company was now aroused to more renewed activity, and assumed a field of more extensive operations, until in 1832 it had become the controlling company in the Northwest Territory. Up to that date this company had been chiefly engaged in fitting out small parties of traders and assigning them to different points in our Territory; and under the direction and auspices of this company old forts Cedar, Lookout, Pierre, Union, and others, were erected and made depots of trade. Three trading houses were also erected above the mouth of the James river over forty years ago, by a party of which Jephyer Rencontre was a member. Pierre Choteau appears to have been the first man who ever successfully ran a steamboat to Fort Pierre, and under his leadership the steamers Antelope and Yellow Stone were the first to plough our northern rivers, and startle the tribes of the wilderness with the scream of civilization.

Catlin thus describes the appearance of the first steamboat among the natives of the upper Missouri, in 1833:

"If anything did ever literally astonish (and astound) the natives, it was the appearance of our steamer, puffing and blowing and paddling, and rushing by their villages, which were on the banks of the river. These poor and ignorant people, for the distance of two thousand miles, had never before seen or heard of a steamboat, and in some places they seemed at a loss to know what to do or how to act; they could not, as the Dutch did at Newburgh on the Hudson river, take it to be a 'floating sawmill,' and they had no name for it, so it was like everything else (with them) which is mysterious and unaccountable, called medicine (mystery). We had on board one twelve pound cannon and three or four eight pound swivels, which we were taking up to arm the Fur Company's Fort at the mouth of the Yellow Stone, and at the approach to every village they were all

discharged several times in rapid succession, which threw the inhabitants into utter confusion and amazement—some of them laid their faces to the ground, and cried to the Great Spirit—some shot their horses and dogs, and sacrificed them to appease the Great Spirit, whom they conceived was offended—some deserted their villages and ran to the top of the bluff some miles distant; and others, in some places, as the boat landed in front of their villages, came with great caution and peeped over the bank of the river to see the fate of their chiefs, whose duty it was (from the nature of their office) to approach us, whether friends or foes, and to go on board. Sometimes, in this plight, they were instantly thrown, neck and heels, over each other's heads and shoulders —men, women, and children, and dogs—sage, sachem, old and young—all in a mass, at the frightful discharge of the steam from the escape pipe, which the captain of the boat let loose upon them for his own fun and amusement. There were many curious conjectures among their wise men with regard to the nature and powers of the steamboat. Among the Mandans some called it the 'big thunder canoe,' for when some distance below the village they 'saw the lightning flash from its sides, and heard the thunder roll from its big pipe.' Others called it the 'big medicine canoe with eyes.' It was 'medicine,' or mystery, because they could not understand it; and it must have eyes, said they, for it sees its own way and takes the deep water in the middle of the channel. They had no idea of the boat being steered by the 'man in the glass house at the top of the boat.'"

In 1814 the first attempt had been made to establish forts in the Mississippi valley, and as early as 1823, the first steamboat ascended the Mississippi to Fort Snelling. The first treaty with the Indians west of the Mississippi, was made by General Scott, at Davenport, in 1832, and in 1836, the great Territory of Wisconsin was organized, with Burlington as the capital, at which place, in 1837, assembled the first Legislature northwest of the Mississippi river.

Father De Smet, in 1840, was the first to carry the cross of religion, and the seeds of agriculture, to the wild natives of the Rocky Mountains. During this era, there is a

period of history comprising the prior expeditions of Robert Campbell's fur parties to the mountains and the discovery of Great Salt Lake, in 1826; and of Bonneville's two years of wild and interesting adventures in the mountains with his train of trappers, in 1833; of the early trials and wanderings of the Subletts, Choteaus, Wythe, Fitzpatrick, Henry, Stuart, and a host of others, who, long ago led their long cavalcades across the vast plains of the northwest, when not a trace of civilized settlement could be found in all the country between the Missouri and the Pacific; also, the later explorations of the fearless Nicolet and Fremont, in 1839; Catlin, in 1832-40; Pope, in 1849; and the still more recent explorations of Stevens, Grover, Warren, Hayden, Mullen, Reynolds, and others, which will form material for a future publication of interest to the people of the great northwest.

Not until 1834, did the first American colony emigrate to the Pacific coast; and in 1839, the first printing press was carried beyond the mountains. In the year 1835, the first newspaper in the Mississippi valley was published at Dubuque, in Wisconsin Territory, from which vast region have since been carved and organized the great Territories of Iowa, in 1838; Minnesota in 1849; Nebraska, in 1854; Dakota in 1861; Idaho, in 1863; and Montana, in 1864; while still farther to the west, beyond the mountains, have been framed the Territories of Oregon, in 1848, and Washington, in 1853.

In the year 1849, by act of Congress, this portion of Dakota was included within the boundaries of the newly organized Territory of Minnesota, which had hitherto remained a portion of the old county of St. Croix, in Wisconsin Territory. In 1851, however, was consummated, at Travers de Sioux, the memorable treaty between the United States and the upper bands of Dakotas, by the provisions of which the Government became the possessor of the first foot of land in Dakota to which the Indians had ever relinquished their title. It embraced that portion of territory lying between the Big Sioux river and the Minnesota State line, including Sioux Falls and the western shores of Big Stone Lake. In the same year the Minnesota Legisla-

ture divided their Territory into nine counties, one of which (Dakota county) covered all the country lying between St. Paul and Yankton, and constituted the sixth council district, and was entitled to two councilmen and one representative in the Minnesota Legislature; but the early pioneers on the Missouri river appear to have been too deeply absorbed with the profits of fur trading to embark in the critical business of legislating. In 1854, the Territory of Nebraska was organized, and included a large portion of that country which is now in Dakota, beyond the Running Water. In the spring of the same year, our fellow citizen, C. F. Picotte, passed up to Fort Pierre on the Fur Company's steamer "Sonora," at which time there was not a white settler on the Dakota side of the Missouri river. In 1855, the Harney treaty was consummated and his forces marched from the Platte to the Missouri, and encamped for the winter at Fort Pierre. The command consisted of about 1,200 men, and among the officers was the heroic Lyon, who fell in the late war for the Union; also, Capt. Gardiner, a rebel general in the southern army; and Capt. Todd, the first Delegate to Congress from Dakota. In 1856, old Fort Lookout was occupied by government troops, and Gen. Harney there made his headquarters, but early in the spring he selected the site and commenced the erection of Fort Randall, where, in June of the same year the two first companies of soldiers were landed by steamboat.

During the same season, Captain Sully, at the head of two companies, marched across the plains from Fort Abercrombie for the purpose of relieving a portion of the command at Fort Pierre, at which point he remained until 1858, and then recrossed the country to Fort Ridgely. Lyon remained in charge of Fort Lookout until the summer of 1858, when both Pierre and Lookout were abandoned, and with the exception of a few companies stationed at Fort Randall, the military forces were removed from the frontier to other parts of the country.

During these early military movements on our frontier Lieut. Warren and Dr. Hayden were prosecuting their scientific investigations in the mysterious regions of the

Black Hills and Bad Lands, while no perceptible settlements had penetrated the Upper Missouri valley, and the soil of Dakota was yet unbroken by the hand of civilized agriculture. A few adventurous pioneers had, however, entered the wilds and built cabins in the Indian country, preparatory to the consummation of the proposed treaties.

The Dakota Land company of St. Paul, and the Western town company of Dubuque, established themselves at points on the Sioux river, in 1857. Fuller, Dewitt, Fisk, Smith and others of the first named company, founded the towns of Medary, Flandreau, Emineza, and also settled upon the upper part of Sioux Falls city, while the Dubuque company, under its successive agents, Jarrett, Brookings and Waldron, held the lower town, erected a number of buildings, and started a saw mill, the first in the Territory, and in the following winter the St. Paul company published the first sheets of the Dakota Democrat, which contained the proceedings of the first provisional Legislature which assembled at Sioux Falls in the winter of 1858-9.

In 1857 the old James River House and ferry, near Yankton were built by the agents of Frost, Todd & Co., who had obtained a license to trade there, and in the same season the first house in Clay county was erected near the old elm tree now standing in the street of Vermillion, in front of Miner's Hotel. The first house in Cole county was erected during the same year and is now standing on the bank of the Big Sioux river, near Pacquette's ferry. In June, 1858, the old trading house in Yankton was built by G. D. Fisk and others, which is still standing on the levee, near the steam boat landing. In the fall of the same year, J. H. Shober, at the head of a small band of pioneers, entered the Territory, and located at Bon Homme Island; and Maj. Gregory, agent of Poncas, had just completed his mission of removing those Indians to the Dakota side of the Running Water. During the same season the town of Medary was burned, and all of the settlements in the Big Sioux valley above Sioux Falls, were abandoned to the Indians. While these early footprints of civilization were being stamped upon the shores of the Missouri valley, the Minnesota State Constitutional

convention had assembled at St. Paul, and was in stormy debate over the question of including this section of Dakota within the boundaries of the new made State—and the resolution was finally lost by only four votes.

In 1858, the Ponca and Yankton treaties were formed through the agency of J. B. S. Todd, T. Bruguier, C. F. Picotte and others, by the provisions of which, those tribes ceded to the United States about 16,000,000 acres of land, lying in the southern part of the Territory, and watered by the Big Sioux, James, Missouri, and Niobrara rivers. For these lands the Government pays over $2,000,000 in annual instalments for 50 years; and on the 13th July, A. H. Redfield, agent of Yanktons, arrived by steamboat and the Indians commenced to abandon their lands and to remove to their reservation, near Fort Randall. Here begins the date of permanent settlement, when the retreating red race looked back upon the advancing sentinels of civilization who had come to subdue the wilds, and adorn our rivers with thriving villages. And here we commence the written history of Dakota's white race, established in a land where "wild tribes of men have marched their armies over our towns and fields, and fierce battles have been fought where, ere long, churches may rear their spires, and our plough shares turn furrows amidst the graves of buried races, and our children play, perhaps, where generations of children have played before."

Scarcely had the Indians removed from their old hunting grounds when settlers began to enter the Territory and erect their western cabins.

In 1859, the first white families settled in the counties of Union, Clay, and Yankton. George Brown located at Vermillion in August 1859, and erected the old "Miner hotel." Miner Robinson, L. E. Phelps and P. H. Jewell, removed to Vermillion during the same season, and J. H. McHenry opened the first store at that town in September 1859; and in the following spring the Van Meter ferry, and Compton & Duel's saw mill were put in operation. In July, J. Stanage selected his claim on James river, erected a house, opened a farm, and established a ferry for the crossing of

the public travel. Thomas Frek and Henry Arend located near the upper ferry, which, at that time, was the old Government crossing, and kept by J. M. Stone, to whom the settler's mail matter was delivered from Sioux City by the driver of the Fort Randall express—inclosed in an old oil-cloth satchel. During the same season D. T. Bramble erected the first frame building in Yankton, as a store, near the levee on the newly surveyed town site of the Upper Missouri Land Co., consisting of J. B. S. Todd, A. W. Hubbard, Enos Stutsman and others. Capt. Todd erected his little law office on the corner of Broadway and Second streets, during the same winter; and on a cold blue Christmas day, in 1859, H. C. Ash and wife, at the head of the pioneer family of Yankton, entered the place and opened a tavern in a rude log house on the west side of Broadway. During the following year the old log churches at Yankton and Vermillion were erected, in which the Revs. Hoyt, Ingham, and Martin, were the first to proclaim the Word of God to the pioneers of Dakota. At this time Sioux Falls, owned by the Dubuque and St. Paul town companies, was the leading town in the Territory, and the U. S. survey of lands had been extended to that place in September 1859, and in the fall of 1860, the first tier of townships was surveyed along the Missouri river, in which year Vermillion commenced its rapid strides in growth and settlement, and outstripped all its competitors, while Yankton was ranked as the third town in Dakota. The three places were aspirants for the embryo capitol. At Sioux Falls the Northwest Independent was published, elections had been held, provisional officers chosen, Delegate to Congress elected, and Legislatures convened in 1858-9 and 1859-60.

But Government appears to have looked with more surprise than compassion on these early political freaks of Dakotians. The people who had settled on the western slope of Dakota, however, were more moderate in their demands, and more successful in their petitions to Congress. These pioneers, on the 8th day of November, 1859, assembled in mass convention to petition Congress for a Territorial Organization. A memorial was drafted and signed by the citizens of the Territory, which was conveyed to Washington

by J. B. S. Todd, calling the attention of the Government to our situation. The session passed, Congress adjourned, and amid the tumultuous preparations for a presidential election and the muttering thunders of a rising rebellion, Dakota was left ungoverned and unorganized.

Not to be discouraged by this partial failure, the pioneers assembled again in mass convention, at Yankton, December 27th, 1860, and again on January 15, 1861, and prepared an earnest and lengthy memorial to Congress, which was signed by 578 citizens, and forwarded to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. Again a cloud hung dark over Dakota's prayer. A new President had been elected—the old power was retiring, a new one advancing; and the rebellion which, but the year before, was muttering in smothered tones, had now burst forth in all its fury, and was bearing upon its black and maddening waves, seven revolted States of the Union. But through the gathering darkness a ray of light was seen. The old power could organize—the new one appoint; and on the 2d day of March 1861, President Buchanan approved the bill giving to Dakota a Territorial Government.

The news did not reach Yankton until the 13th of the month, and on that night, hats, hurrahs and town lots "went up," to greet the dawning future of the great northwest.

Under its new boundaries the Territory comprised all of the present Territory of Montana, and the eastern slope of Idaho, and contained about 350,000 square miles, which was bounded on the north by the British line, east by Minnesota and Iowa, south by the Iowa line, and the Missouri, Niobrara, and Turtle Hill rivers up to and along the 43d parallel of latitude, to the Rocky Mountains, thence along their snowy range to British America. Some 70,000 square miles of this territory, reaching from the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, was carved out of the old Territory of Nebraska, as formed in 1854. Dakota, thus established, constituted the largest organized Territory in the United States, and afforded a river navigation of not less than 2,000 miles. In June the following officials, appointed by

the new administration arrived and entered upon the discharge of their duties: Wm. Jayne, of Illinois, Governor; John Hutchinson, of Minnesota, Secretary; P. Bliss, of Ohio, Chief Justice; L. P. Williston, of Pennsylvania, and J. L. Williams, of Tennessee, Associate Justices; W. E. Gleeson, of Maryland, District Attorney; G. D. Hill, of Michigan, Surveyor General; W. F. Shaffer, Marshal; W. A. Burleigh, of Pennsylvania, Agent of Yanktons; H. A. Hoffman, of New York, Agent of Poncas. H. A. Kennerly, was appointed Register, and Jesse Wherry, Receiver, of the Vermillion Land Office during the same season, both of Dakota Territory. On the 6th of June the Weekly Dakotian was issued at Yankton, under the head of the Dakotian Company. In the following month the Dakota Republican was started at Vermillion by Bedell and Clark.

A census was taken, showing the population of the territory to be 2,042, and on the 13th of July the first proclamation of the Governor was issued, dividing the Territory into judicial districts, and assigning the judges thereto. Chief Justice Bliss was assigned to the second district at Yankton; Assistant Justice Williston to the Vermillion district, and Judge Williams to the Bon Homme district. On the 29th of July a second proclamation was issued, dividing the Territory into Council and Representative districts, and appointing the 16th of September for a general election. Politics, now for the first time, began to bewilder the brain of Dakota's people. J. B. S. Todd, had already published himself as an independent candidate for Delegate in Congress; and by a convention which had assembled at Vermillion on the first of June, A. J. Bell had been put in nomination by members of the Union party; but not until C. P. Booge had declared himself an independent candidate, may Dakota be said to have fairly embarked in the race for Congress. Todd was supported by the ready quill of the Dakotian, and Bell by the Republican, while Booge relied upon his fast horses and stump speakers. Election came and passed—585 votes were polled, of which Todd received 397, Booge 110, and Bell 78. Soon after election the weekly Dakotian and Republican were suspended, until late in the winter of 1861-2, when

the Dakotian was resumed under the name of Josiah C. Trask as public printer for the Territory. Nearly all the Federal officers went back to the states during the winter to wait the convening of the Legislature.

During the winter of 1861-2, Capt. Miner's Co. A of Dakota cavalry was enlisted at Yankton, by order of the War Department, for frontier service, consisting of 98 men, who were mustered in the U. S. service April 19th, 1862. The Legislature, which had been chosen at the fall election, consisting of 9 councilmen and 13 representatives, was convened by the Governor, at Yankton, March 17th, 1862, and perfected an organization by the choice of J. H. Shober, President, and James Tufts, Secretary of the Council; G. M. Pinney, Speaker, and J. R. Hanson, Chief Clerk of the House.

The following is the list of members and officers of the first Legislature:

Yankton District—Council, Enos Stutsman and D. T. Bramble. House, M. K. Armstrong and John Stanage.

East Vermillion District—Council, H. D. Betts and J. W. Boyle. House, L. Burgess and A. W. Puett.

West Vermillion—Council, Jacob Duel. House, J. A. Jacobson and B. E. Wood.

Big Sioux and Red River District—Council, Austin Cole and W. W. Brookings. House, C. Malony, J. C. McBride, G. P. Waldron and H. S. Donaldson.

Bon Homme District—Council, J. H. Shober. House, G. M. Pinney and Reuben Wallace.

Ft. Randall District—Council, J. S. Gregory. House, J. L. Tiernon.

Subordinate Officers—Council, James Tufts, Secretary; E. M. Bond, Assistant; W. R. Goodfellow, Enrolling Clerk; S. M. Ingham, Chaplain; C. F. Picotte, Sergeant-at-arms; E. B. Wixon, Messenger; W. W. Warford, Fireman.

Subordinate Officers—House, J. R. Hanson, Chief Clerk; J. M. Allen, Assistant; D. Gifford, Engrossing Clerk; B. M. Smith, Enrolling Clerk; M. D. Metcalf, Chaplain; James Somers, Sergeant-at-arms; A. B. Smith, Messenger; Ole Anderson, Fireman. Speaker Pinney resigned on the 9th, and J. L. Tiernon was elected to the vacant chair.

A wholesome code of laws was passed, the Capitol permanently located at Yankton, and the Red River representatives increased to three members.

After the great flood in March, caused by the gorging of the Missouri river, which drove all the settlers from the bottoms to the high lands with their families and herds, the summer of 1862 was one of peace and prosperity; the harvests were bountiful, settlements increased, while towns and villages sprang to view along the shores of our navigable rivers. With the 1st of September came the second election in Dakota, wherein Governor Jayne and General Todd were opposing candidates for Congress, respectively nominated by mass conventions of the 16th and 24th of July, at Vermillion.

Politics were discarded, and they entered the field as Union candidates, accompanied by two tickets of territorial officers and candidates for the Legislature. The campaign was very sharply and earnestly contested. Jayne was supported by the Dakotian, at Yankton, and the Republican, at Vermillion, which had again entered the political arena. Todd was actively sustained by his friends in the field, and by a series of thirty-seven communications known as the "Logroller Letters," in the Sioux City Register. The interest manifested was intense. Eight hundred and sixty-three votes were polled, of which Jayne received 408, and Todd, 375. The election returns from the counties of Bon Homme and Charles Mix were rejected by the board of Territorial Canvassers, and the Red River returns not arriving in time to be canvassed, the result stood Jayne, 237; Todd, 221. Todd contested the election of Jayne before the Committee of Elections in Congress, and was finally reinstated in his seat, by the report of the Congressional Committee giving to Todd 345 votes, and Jayne, 246. During the fall of 1862, the Vermillion Land office was formally opened by the newly appointed Register and Receiver, J. M. Allen, of Illinois, and M. Wilkinson, of Indiana. In the summer of the same year, E. Stutsman was chosen private Secretary of Gov. Jayne, and Geo. M. Pinney was appointed U. S. Marshal for Dakota.

Simultaneously with the eve of the Delegate election, came the painful tidings confirming the rumors of the bloody massacre in Minnesota, by the rebellious bands of Sioux. The fearful tale that a thousand people had been hurried to death by these savages in the short space of five days, and that revengeful army, reeking in innocent blood, decked in the garb of victory, and proud with spoils and bleeding captives, was moving westward on the weak and defenceless settlements of Dakota, could not but cast terror and tears around the hearthstone of many a happy family. Here they had planted their abodes in the wilderness and with scanty means and frugal industry were perfecting, day by day, their little homes of peace and comfort. But hark! the war cry is heard; the Sioux are on the plain; two citizens are murdered at noon-day, and our unarmed and infant settlements stand trembling within the grasp of 30,000 Indians. The panic flies from house to house and from village to village until three fourths of the entire Territory is a moving caravan of people. Stout hearted men stood blanched with terror; pale faced mothers concealed their tears, and strove, with saddened smiles, to calm the night sobs of the weeping young; and when the last ray of sunlight had left this land of ripening harvest, and the dark mantle of night was closed over river and wood and plain, in homes where the voice of gladness and the sound of industry was heard no more, surely the pall of death seemed to be settling over the grave of the Territory. But not so. Dakota had men of nerve and daring; and some 300 of these pioneers remained in the Territory; threw up their hasty fortifications, and with rifle in hand, stood sentinels day and night, to protect their homes and families from the nightly expected attack of the red man's knife and tomahawk.

The town of Sioux Falls was abandoned and the citizens fled to the settlements on the Missouri river for protection. At that place two citizens had been murdered in their fields at noon-day, and the Indians had entered the town and fired upon a company of soldiers. The mail carrier between Sioux Falls and Yankton had been waylaid and robbed, and a party of miners descending the Missouri river in open boats, was

attacked and murdered by a band of Sioux near Painted Woods creek, and no news of the fate of the unfortunate victims reached the settlement until late in the winter. In the vicinity of Yankton, a small war party boldly entered the settlement on James river, fired upon citizens in the threshhold of their own cabins, resisted a detachment of soldiers, and departed to the plains with their stolen plunder, while the farmers of the settlement, with their families and herds, resorted to the barracks of the town for refuge. Aside from these, no deliberate attack was made on the settlements in the Missouri valley. Gradually the fear of the people abated, and before the close of autumn, much of the scattered population which had fled to the neighboring Territory of Nebraska and State of Iowa, began to return to their homes, and succeeded in gathering sufficient supply from their damaged and wasting harvests to subsist themselves through the coming winter.

On the first of December the second session of the Legislature convened in the newly erected capitol building of Picotte and Armstrong, and the members of the lower House were engaged seventeen days in effecting a permanent organization and received the message of the Governor.

The Council permanently organized on the first day of the session, by the choice of Enos Stutsman, President, and James Tufts, Secretary; and the House formed a temporary organization by the election of A. J. Harlan, Speaker, and B. M. Smith, Chief Clerk. Contested elections from Cole, Bon Homme, and Charles Mix counties consumed the time of the House for ten days, when, on the ground of a prejudiced ruling of the Speaker, six members withdrew from the House and left the body without a quorum. The House next day filled its quorum by admitting the contestants Somers, Waldron, Gifford, Johnson, and Kennerly, while the six members who withdrew, met in the Surveyor General's office and formed an organization by admitting contestants Frisbie, Litchfield, Hartsough and Pease. On the 16th day of the session, the six members returned and the House was organized by the election of M. K. Armstrong, Speaker, and

Robert Hagaman, Chief Clerk. The Governor's message was received on the following day.

The second session of the Legislature as finally organized, stood thus:

Yankton County—Council, Enos Stutsman, D. T. Bramble. House, M. K. Armstrong, Knud Larson.

Clay County—Council, H. D. Betts, J. W. Boyle. House, A. J. Harlan, L. Bothun, A. W. Puett, J. A. Jacobson.

Cole County and Sioux Falls—Council, A. Cole, W. W. Brookings. House, N. J. Wallace, M. H. Somers, G. P. Waldron.

Red River District—Council, James McFetridge. House, H. S. Donaldson, J. Y. Buckman.

Bon Homme County—Council J. H. Shober. House, E. Gifford, R. M. Johnson.

Ft. Randall District—Council, J. S. Gregory. House, F. D. Pease.

Subordinate Officers of Council—James Tufts, Secretary; W. W. Warford, Assistant; L. Robinson, Sergeant-at-arms; Hans Gunderson, Messenger; Ole Halverson, Fireman; M. Hoyt, Chaplain.

Subordinate Officers of the House—R. M. Hagaman, Chief Clerk; J. M. Allen, Assistant; G. Jacobson, Sergeant-at-arms; T. Halverson, Messenger; J. S. Presho, Fireman; J. L. Paine, Chaplain.

During the summer of 1862, the first discovery of gold had been made in western Dakota, on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, within the present territories of Idaho and Montana; and on the 3d of the following March, 1863, Congress erected the new Territory of Idaho, comprising all that portion of Dakota west of the 27th degree of longitude, passing northward through the Black Hills, and near the mouth of the Yellowstone river. Over 12,000 people emigrated to the mountain mines of Idaho in 1863, and in May, 1864, the new Territory of Montana was erected out of eastern Idaho, with a population of 10,000 people, and a yearly product of seven million dollars in gold dust. The

spring of 1863, had opened with discouraging prospects to the settlers in the Missouri valley. The rumor of a long and harassing Indian war, was ripe among the people. The settlements were again unguarded and defenceless—no assistance was afforded by the commander of the district until a daring murder was committed by a war party, within three miles of the Capitol, and whole settlements of industrious farmers had abandoned the Territory. But the future brightened and the hopes of the people revived, when in June, Gen. Sully, with 2,000 cavalry entered the Missouri valley, pursued and punished the Indians, at the battle of White Stone Hills, and returned to garrison the settlements for the winter. Fort Sully was built near the line of the Indian country, and was garrisoned as the frontier post in the Territory.

Eighteen steamboats passed up the Missouri into the new Territories, during the year 1863, carrying over 5,000 tons of freight and many hundred passengers for the new gold mines. During the same season, the Santee and Winnebago tribes of Indians were removed from Minnesota to Dakota, and located on reservations near Crow creek, in latitude 44 degrees north.

In September occurred the third general election in Dakota. But little interest was manifested, and a small vote polled throughout the Territory. Drouth, Indians and misfortunes had abated the political and agricultural ardor of the people. During the year, Newton Edmunds was appointed Governor; G. P. Waldron, Provost Marshal and J. W. Boyle, Receiver U. S. land office. On the seventh of December, the third session of the Legislature convened at Yankton, and perfected an organization with the following members and officers, to-wit:

Yankton County—Council, Enos Stutsman, J. M. Stone, G. W. Kingsbury. House, John Lawrence, W. W. Brookings, Knud Larson, W. Reed, P. H. Risiling.

Clay County—Council, Lasse Bothun, Hugh Compton, Franklin Taylor. House, H. Burgess, Ole Bottolfson, A. W. Puett, E. M. Bond, Wm. Shriner, G. W. Pratt.

Cole County—Council, J. O. Taylor, M. M. Rich, John Mathers. House, N. G. Curtis, Albert Gore, B. A. Hill, Duncan Ross, Asa Mattison.

Bon Homme County—Council, D. P. Bradford. House, Henry Brooks, L. H. Litchfield.

Todd County—Council, J. Shaw Gregory. House, Jesse Wherry, Peter Kegan.

Charles Mix County—Council, John J. Thompson. House, E. W. Wall.

Officers of the Council—Enos Stutsman, President; J. R. Hanson, Secretary; C. F. Rossteuscher, Assistant; B. C. Fowler, Sergeant-at-arms; C. E. Rowley, Messenger; T. W. Thompson, Fireman; Rev. M. Hoyt, Chaplain.

Officers of the House—A. W. Puett, Speaker; Mahlon Gore, Chief Clerk; A. K. Curtis, Assistant; Ole Sampson, Sergeant-at-arms; Louis Larson, Fireman; L. K. Severson, Messenger; Almon Gore, Chaplain.

In the spring of 1864, the population of Dakota was increased by the advent of a New York Colony of sixty families, who settled along the Missouri valley.

Gen. Sully, in June, led his second military expedition through the Territory, to punish the hostile tribes of the northwest. His command consisted of about 2,600 men; and notwithstanding the fact that small detachments of troops were left in his rear, to protect the towns and settlements, the U. S. mail stage was attacked upon the highway of the Territory, and murder committed almost within signal shot of a garrisoned station. Fort Rice was erected and garrisoned during the summer, by the forces of Generals Sully and Sibley.

The season of 1864 was unpropitious for the settlements of the Territory. Unremitting drouth and clouds of grasshoppers swept the bloom of the fields and the verdure of the plains, and with the approach of autumn, the despondent farmers repaired with their teams to the neighboring States to bring in a supply of subsistence until another seed-time. Lurking bands of Indians continued to hang upon the border settlements for rapine and murder, and during the season a

whole family was massacred within twelve miles of the capital, while teamsters were robbed on the upper thoroughfares and their stock driven to the plains. The prospects for the future were truly discouraging, and many of the earliest settlers abandoned the Territory.

On the 11th of October occurred the third Delegate election, wherein W. A. Burleigh and J. B. S. Todd were opposing candidates for Congress, running substantially on the same political platform. A new independent paper had been started at Yankton, in June, styled the Dakota Union, published by G. W. Kingsbury, with M. K. Armstrong as associate editor. This publication maintained a vigorous existence for ten successive issues, opposing the election of Mr. Burleigh, but upon the nomination of Gen. Todd the paper became silent, and was finally consolidated with the Dakotian, under the name of the Union and Dakotian. Six hundred and seven votes were polled, of which Burleigh received 386, and Todd, 220. Mr. Burleigh was therefore declared, by the canvassers, duly elected, and assumed his seat in Congress as third Delegate from Dakota.

On the 5th of December, the fourth annual session of the Legislature convened at Yankton, and perfected an organization with the following members and officers, to-wit:

Yankton County—Council, Enos Stutsman, G. W. Kingsbury, J. M. Stone. House, W. W. Brookings, J. R. Hanson, John Lawrence, M. M. Matthiesen, W. Reed.

Union County—Council, J. O. Taylor, M. M. Rich, John Mathers. House, A. Christy, G. W. Kellogg, Peter Lemonges, H. Matthews, George Stickney.

Clay County—Council, Lasse Bothun, Hugh Compton, Franklin Taylor. House, H. Burgess, J. P. Burgman, B. W. Collar, G. W. Pratt, Wm. Shriner, J. W. Turner.

Bon Homme County—Council, D. P. Bradford. House, John Rouse, John W. Owens.

Todd County—Council, J. Shaw Gregory. House, Francis McCarthy, Peter Kegan.

Charles Mix County—John J. Thompson. House, F. Fallas, E. W. Wall.

Officers of the Council—Enos Stutsman, President; G. N. Propper, Secretary; James B. Gavton and C. F. Rossteuscher, Assistants; Carlos Kingsley, Sergeant-at-arms; Mons Bothun, Messenger; W. H. Werdebaugh, Fireman; L. P. Judson, Chaplain.

Officers of the House—W. W. Brookings, Speaker; G. I. Foster, Chief Clerk; L. E. Congleton, Assistant; J. P. Renne, Sergeant-at-arms; Erick Nelson, Messenger; Peter Nelson, Fireman; M. Hoyt, Chaplain.

The spring of 1865 gave promise of a more prosperous future to the Territory. Eighty-five thousand dollars had been appropriated by Congress for the opening of wagon roads through the Territories to the Rocky Mountain gold mines. Col. James S. Sawyer was appointed superintendent to construct the road from Niobrara to Virginia City with $50,000. Col. G. C. Moody was assigned to the road from Sioux City up the Missouri valley to the great Sheyenne with $25,000; and W. W. Brookings, with $30,000, was selected to construct a road across Dakota from the Minnesota line, out the Sheyenne, to intersect with the Sawyer Route, west of the Black Hills.

In June, Gen. Sully led his third expedition up the Missouri valley into the Indian country; and with the exception of the "Brule Creek Massacre" in August, peace and safety generally prevailed throughout the settled portion of the Territory. The season was a favorable one for the farmers and the fields yielded a bountiful harvest. Schools were numerously established throughout the Territory, and the erection of a new Episcopal church commenced at Yankton. The first session of the Supreme Court of Dakota was convened at the Capitol, July 6th, 1865. Hon. Ara Bartlett, J. P. Kidder, and W. E. Gleeson, presided.

On the 10th of October came the fifth general election for members of the Legislative Assembly. No political lines were drawn, and a moderate vote was polled throughout the Territory.

On the 4th day of December, the fifth Legislature convened at Yankton, consisting of the following members:

Yankton County—Council, Enos Stutsman, M. K. Armstrong, G. W. Kingsbury, A. Van Osdel. House, W. W. Brookings, H. C. Ash, A. M. English, S. C. Fargo, Jacob Brough.

Union County—Council, George Stickney, Charles LaBreeche, O. F. Stevens. House, T. C. Watson, E. C. Collins, William Walters, Michael Curry, Michael Ryan, G. W. Kellogg, Edward Lent.

Clay County—Council, J. W. Turner, N. V. Ross, Canute Weeks. House, H. J. Austin, James Whitehorn, G. B. Bigelow, Amos Hampton, Franklin Taylor, James McHenry.

Bon Homme County—Council, Austin Cole. House, Jonathan Brown, Charles N. Cooper.

Todd County—Council, J. Shaw Gregory. House, J. A. Lewis, C. H. McCarthy.

Charles Mix County—Council, John J. Thompson. House, W. Stevens, Joseph Ellis.

Officers of the Council—George Stickney, President; J. R. Hanson, Secretary; Edwin Vinton, Assistant; J. D. Prentice, Sergeant-at-arms; Benj. Fraley, Messenger; Joseph Broulette, Fireman; Rev. M. Hoyt, Chaplain.

Officers of the House—G. B. Bigelow, Speaker; Geo. I. Foster, Chief Clerk; John Reynolds, Assistant; George Falkingburg, Sergeant-at-arms; S. M. Kessler, Fireman; Steven Baker, Messenger; Rev. M. Hoyt, Chaplain.

And here, with the termination of the fifth Session of the Legislative Assembly of Dakota, we close the early history of this great Territory of the Northwest. We have endeavored to present a plain unpolished record of dates, events and localities. These are the footprints of Dakota's past; the future remains to be lived and recorded—the future of three vast States stretching across the nation's inevitable highway, from the Great Lakes to the Mountains. Through the midst of our entire border the Almighty has traced the water-course of one of the mightiest rivers on the continent, rising among the cliffs of eternal frost and bearing upon its bosom the wealth of the mountains, the commerce of the valleys and harvest of the plains, southward to the sea. Not five years of our political existence have yet elapsed,

and notwithstanding the terrors of a three years relentless Indian war in our midst, the people of the Missouri valley have steadily advanced to a permanent degree of prosperity, with churches and schools, and all the attendants of an enlightened community.

Already the screaming chorus of navigation is heard upon our rivers, and the iron finger of commerce is pointing from the Upper Mississippi to the wilds of the Northwest Territory, whose mountain sides are already yielding an annual product of gold to the amount of twenty millions of dollars. Verily,

"The star of Empire westward takes its way."

And we have only to look back through thirty-five years of wilderness to find the wild wolf howling in the streets of Chicago, and the stark and untamed red man roaming at will through his native forests, in the States of Illinois and Wisconsin. And crossing the father of rivers into Iowa, in 1832, we find the retreating savage relinquishing to the government the first foot of land northwest of the river Mississippi, and again, in 1851, the great Sioux nation yields up to the pale faced race, the sky tinted clime of Minnesota; while in 1857, the advent of the first railroad train northwest of the Mississippi is announced by the scream of the iron horse on the eastern plains of Iowa; and soon thereafter, in 1858, far up in the Missouri valley of Dakota and Nebraska, the still retreating red man cedes to his great father the land of his birth, and turns his face westward to his inevitable doom. And still the intelligent and aggressive army of pale faces is pressing up this great artery of the northwest, causing its valleys to resound with the hum of invincible enterprise, and its gold-seamed mountains to ring beneath the stroke of thirty thousand miners. Let the early pioneer of the northwest gather courage from the lessons of the past. Let him remember that out of a wilderness of thirty years ago, have grown rich and powerful States, with their millions of people, whose great steamers and car-trains are thundering through every valley, and whose cities and church-spires are rising from almost every hill-top and plain. Who shall say then, that thirty years

of the future will not build a highway of cities up our navigable and fertile valleys over the golden mountains to the ocean. The day is not distant when the near and accessible Black Hills, with their pine clad vales and aurific ledges, will be wrested from the jealous savage, and peace restored with the rebellious tribes between the river and mountains. Then will the thoroughfares of travel and trade penetrate the interior of the Northwest wild, and develop its unbounded resources.

Let us remain true, patient, honest, and industrious, and the world will admire us and fill our lands with people. The graves of our worthy dead will be honored in coming years, and the northwest will boast of its wealth, trade, society, institutions, and men.

THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The Black Hills of Dakota Territory

The Black Hills and Bad Lands of Dakota and Montana Territories, lying near the 102° meridian of longitude, and between the Niobrara and Yellowstone rivers, is a region which has always excited the interest of geologists and explorers, but remains, even up to the present time, a mysterious and undeveloped belt of the continent where none but the wild beast and red man hold dominion, and on account of the determined and superstitious hostility of the Indians in that region, no geologist has ever been able to penetrate into the interior of the Black Hills, and no scientific exploration has ever been made among the mysterious ruins of the Bad Lands, save a hasty survey by Evans in 1849, and Weeks and Hayden in 1856-7. Projecting peaks of these hills have been ascended to the height of 6,500 feet above the sea level, while the long winding valley of the Bad Lands is sunken, in many places, to the depth of 1,000 feet below the surface of the surrounding prairies.

The Black Hills, says Lieut. Warren, who visited their base, in 1857-8, are composed of the same formations of stratified rocks as are found in the gold-bearing gulches of the Wind River and Big Horn mountains; these hills, in his opinion, being only an out-cropping spur of the great Rocky Mountain range, in the vicinity of the Bannock and Virginia City mines. The vast forests of magnificent pine which literally darken the flanks of this mountain range, have given to it, among travelers, the name of "Black Hills," situated between the forks of the Great Sheyenne. Dr. Hayden, the geologist, says the lowest member of the salurian period, or gold bearing strata, are well developed in these Hills, and the recent discoveries made by Gen Sully's Indian expedition which crossed the northern trend of the Bad Lands, in 1864, and of Col. Sawyer's road expedition along the south base of the Black Hills, in 1865, clearly indicate that the next succeeding formation, known as the Devonian system, is brought to light in the floor of the great Bad Land basin. The vast ruins of petrified forests, with their fallen trees, lie strewn among peaks and castles of brick, coal and organic remains, with piers and bridges of stone, resembling the works of an ancient people. This system is known in geology as the period in the earth's formation which corresponds with the third day of creation, when the great coal measure of the earth commenced their slow formation with the first appearance of vegetation upon the globe, and it is an established geological fact that the most extensive coal deposits are met with in all countries next above the Devonian series, and that the petroleum or oil bearing rocks are to be found in this and the lower salurian period, which Dr. Hayden says are well developed in the Black Hill region.

It is now the prevailing opinion among geologists, based upon scientific reasoning, that the basin of the "Bad Lands" is the ancient bed of a great coal field, which became self-ignited at some distant period, and like many of the coal fields of England, has been slowly burned out by its own bituminous fuel.

Colter and others in 1804-5, crossed the northern trend of this great fire land, where, at that early day they represent the whole country as being on fire, emitting a carboniferous smoke and the sound of rumbling thunder from the heated earth; and as these phenomena were mentioned by Lewis and Clark in 1806, and by Hunt, McKenzie and Crooks in their fur expedition to the mountains in 1811, there is conclusive evidence to sustain the statement made by Gen. Sully in his official report of 1864, that "coal exists in all the country from the Missouri to the Yellowstone."

The early discovery of oil springs in that region, by Capt. Bonneville in 1833; and the still later and reliable discovery of Mr. Eddy in 1865, of large flowing oil springs to the west of the Black Hills, foretells the hidden wealth of this vast region.

Humbolt and De Smet make mention of mountain reports being heard in the vicinity of these hills in the early part of the present century, resembling the discharge of artillery, in the most calm and serene weather, which the wild and superstitious natives of that region believed to be the bursting of rich mineral deposits, the locality of which were revealed only to the red man, and were entombed far up among the dark and inaccessible defiles of the Black Hills. But modern discovery and science account for these strange phenomena by attributing the cause to an escape of hydrogen from subterraneous beds of burning coal. Later travelers inform us that since the year 1830 these strange "fires and explosions" have ceased. Capt. Bonneville, in 1834, and Parker in 1835 found nothing but the silent, dismal and mysterious ruins of this great subterraneous conflagration, heaped in charred and crumbling towers and castles in the midst of a solitary valley of ashes, bones, and petrifaction.

This theory in the origin of the "Bad Lands" being sustained both by history and geology, it is confidently believed by the people of the northwest, that coal oil reservoirs will yet be found in great abundance at the north and east base of the Black Hills. Here in the upheaval of this mountain range, geology points to the oil bearing rocks of the Divonian and salurian formations, which have been thrown

up, through and above the surrounding coal-fields which border immediately upon the base of these mountainous Hills, whose northern slopes are believed to be laden with immense deposits of lead and iron.

Prof. Owens, U. S. Geologist, in his report of 1852, in speaking of this mysterious region, compares the Bad Lands to "some magnificent city of the dead, where the labor and the genius of forgotten nations had left behind them a multitude of monuments of art and skill. At every step objects of the highest interest present themselves. Embedded in the debris, lie strewn, in the greatest profusion, organic relics of extinct animals. All speak of the former existance of most remarkable races that roamed about in bygone ages high up in the valley of the Missouri towards the sources of its western tributaries."

The eminent geologist demonstrates that all the strata composing the formation in the vicinity of the Black Hills and Bad Lands, "have been a succession of sediments or precipitates at the bottom of the ocean." "Thus," says he, "the geologist is able to prove, as satisfactorily as can be demonstrated a mathematical problem, that at the time these fossil mamalia of the Bad Lands lived, the ocean still ebbed and flowed over Switzerland including its present site of the Alps, whose highest summits then reached only above the surface of the sea, constituting a small archipelago of a few distant islands in the great expanse of the ocean."

The same geologists inform us that the Black Hills of Dakota, the silver bearing placers of the Amazon, the rich Cordilleras of South America, the Himalaya range of India, the Alps of Switzerland and the volcanic Aetna of Sicily, have all emerged from the sea at the same geological period, and that the same formation of mineral bearing strata can be traced in each.

The actual discoveries of Astor's fur parties in 1811, and of Capt. Bonneville in 1834, of Harney in 1855, Warren in 1856-7, of Dr. Hayden in 1858-9, Gen. Sully in 1864, and Col. Sawyer in 1865, prove conclusively that the Black Hill region abounds not only in the precious metals, but in iron,

coal, lead, salt and petroleum, aside from its vast forests of magnificent pine and cedar.

We believe the day is not far distant when a commercial city will spring up in the citadel of these Hills of wealth, which will direct the iron track of the first Railway from the upper Mississippi to the "northern mines" of the Rocky Mountains.

The Missouri Valley of Dakota.

The Missouri valley of Dakota, between the 42° and 47° of north latitude, is one of the finest agricultural regions in the northwestern Territories. The bottom lands bordering on this great river and its tributaries, possess most singular richness and uniformity of soil, and furnish the most splendid natural meadows of luxuriant grasses; while the adjoining prairies, clothed in nutritious verbage, are high and rolling, and free from malaria. On the abundant pasturage of the plains, and the green rushes of the valleys, cattle and horses subsist through the whole winter without care or attention, by sheltering themselves in the timbered ravines and river woodlands. Rain in winter is seldom known in this latitude, while the spring and autumn fall of water does not equal that of the states in the Mississippi valley by several inches. All kinds of grain, fruit and vegetable roots usually grown in the middle states, here yield abundantly. Wild apples, plums, cherries, grapes, hops, and wild artichokes, (or native potato) grow spontaneously and yield in fabulous profusion along all the brooks and streams in the Missouri valley. Corn well cultivated has yielded 73 bushels per acre; wheat 42 bushels, and potatoes 270. The excess of mean summer heat in this valley above that required for the thrifty growth of all staple cereals is from 2° to 5°; while the winters are dry, cold and uniform in temperature, with a clear sky and exhiliarating air.

The following meteorological notes for the year 1865, taken from the records of the Dakota Historical Society at Yankton, will serve to show the natural uniformity of Dakota climate:

1865	Degrees of heat		Inches snow and rain		No. wet	Prevailing
Months	Max.	Min.	Rain	Snow	days	winds
January	53	*16	1½	7¾	3	n. w.
February ...	55	*20½	¾	5¾	2½	n. w.
March	69	*4	5¾	4¼	7	w. n. w.
April	77	8	7⅛	3½	8½	s. e.
May	89	39	4¾	...	4½	south
June	97	69	4¾	...	6	s. s. w.
July 103¼		72	7¼	...	8	S. w.
August 102¾		68	6⅞	...	7	south
September ..	93	41	3⅛	...	3½	south
October	84	19	4⅝	2¾	11½	n. w.
November ..	67	29	¾	¾	2	n. w.
December ...	49	*18	...	5½	5	n. w.

An * indicates below zero.

Nearly one million acres of land have been surveyed by the government lying along the Missouri valley in Dakota, extending from the Big Sioux river to the Niobrara, including the counties of Union, Clay, Yankton, Bon Homme and Todd. Over 100,000 acres have been filed on by actual settlers in these counties alone, under the provisions of the homestead and pre-emption laws, since the opening of the U. S. land office at Vermillion, in 1862. Many of the most desirable locations in the whole valley yet remain open to the future emigrant. The dark and perilous days in the pioneer settlement of Dakota have been met and passed, and notwithstanding the three years Indian war upon our border, one hundred miles of flourishing settlement have been established along the shores of the Missouri valley. No people in the west have endured so many perils and dangers incident to the early settlement of a new territory, as the pioneers of Dakota Territory. With 50,000 Indians between the river and mountains, either openly hostile or secretly advanced along the southern frontier of the territory, fixing their permanent abodes on the borders of civilization. While these worthy pioneers of southern Dakota have been pushing their way against the Indian hordes of the upper Missouri, the golden attractions of the Missouri and Yellowstone have been plucked from our western border, and given to

the new territories of Montana and Idaho; while millions of dollars and several thousand soldiers have been engaged by the government during the last three years in putting down the stupendous Indian rebellion of Central Dakota.

The following table will be found of interest as an exhibit of the Indian population of the Missouri river and its tributaries:

DAKOTA TERRITORY

Tribe.	Population	Remarks
Yanktons	2,530	Treaty of 1857
Ponkas	1,100	Treaty of 1858
Santee Sioux	1,043	Treaty of 1851
Brules, of Platte and Black Hills	4,800	Wild Tribes
Ogalalas, of Platte and Black Hills	3,065	Wild Tribes
Sheyennes, of Platte and Black Hills	3,000	Hostile tribes
Arapahoes, of Platte and Black Hills	2,800	Hostile tribes
Two Kettles, of Platte and Black Hills	780	Wild tribes
Minneconjoes, of Platte and Black Hills	2,220	Wild tribes
Yanctonnais	4,200	Hostile tribes
Uncpapas and San Arcs	2,400	Hostile tribes
Black Feet	1,200	Treaty of 1853
Wandering Sioux	800	Outlaws of 1862
Groventres, Mandans and Rees	2,500	Harney treaty, 1855
Assiniboines	3,280	Wild tribes
Crows	3,500	Wild and warlike

MONTANA TERRITORY

Groventres of the Prairie	1,800	Wild tribes
Pigans	1,870	Treaty of 1853
Bloods	2,150	Treaty of 1853
Blackfeet	2,450	Treaty of 1853

Flatheads	551	Treaty of 1853
Pend d'Oreilles etc.	1,281	Treaty of 1853
Total	60,369	

All of these tribes reside upon waters which flow into the Missouri river. They range over an extent of territory comprising over 300,000 square miles, and receive from the Government in annuities and presents over a quarter of a million dollars a year; or about $5 per head.

Only four resident tribes have yet relinquished their lands to the United States. Their agencies and Indian villages, interspersed with trading posts and military garrisons, are the only human habitations for a thousand miles along the upper Missouri. And notwithstanding the native wildness of this vast region, the steamboat navigation upon these upper waters now amounts to many million dollars annually. The heavy transportation of mills and machinery to the mines of the Rocky Mountains, and the supply of Indian agencies, fur posts and military forts along the river, already amounts to over 12,000 tons yearly, and requires forty annual steamboat trips into the far interior. Steamboats ascend to Ft. Benton, near the great falls, within 140 miles of the Helena mines, the richest yet found in Montana territory, and within forty-four miles of the newly discovered mines on Sun river.

The Yellowstone river was navigated by Gen. Sully's steamboats in 1864, to near the mouth of Tongue river, and it is evident that during the early part of the season, small class boats can reach the mouth of the Big Horn. The Great Sheyenne river can be ascended with flat-boats to the very base of the Black Hills, upon which stream the vast pine forests of that region can be easily floated to the Missouri, a distance of 160 miles.

Coal in inexhaustible quantities has been found on all the upper tributaries of the Missouri and Yellowstone. Upon a complete restoration of peace with the hostile Indian tribes, now so near at hand, the Missouri river will become the great thoroughfare of all the northwestern trade and

travel. We have only to look to the increase of navigation on this stream for the last five years, and we can well predict the future steamboat trade of the upper Missouri.

Since the opening of navigation in 1860, one hundred and twenty steamboats have ascended the Missouri River into Dakota Territory. Of these, nine arrived in 1860; eleven in 1861; thirteen in 1862; eighteen in 1863; thirty in 1864; thirty-nine in 1865; an average of twenty-four arrivals each year, or an increase of forty per cent per annum. These boats have carried into the Upper Missouri Valley an aggregate of 35,000 tons of freight, worth at least $35,000,000. Aside from this, 170 mackinaw boats have arrived from the Mountains since 1860, bringing over $15,000,000 in furs and gold.

Name.	Arrival	Average Tonnage
Shreveport	May 14 1863	300
Isabella	17	250
Isabella	24	250
Florence	27	400
Nellie Rogers	30	250
Alone	30	200
West Wind	June 3	400
Glasgow	12	400
Robt. Campbell	14	550
Florence	21	400
Peoria	26	350
War Eagle	26	350
Sam Gaty	July 3	350
West Wind	10	250
West Wind	14	150
Florence	21	350
West Wind	27	300
Prairie State	Oct. 16	250
Total Steamboat tonnage for 1863		5,900

Name.	Arrival		Average Tonnage
Benton	April 22	1864	250
Yellowstone	May 14		450
West Wind	15		400
Cutter	18		120
Chippewa Falls	18		120
Fannie Ogden	25		300
Effie Dean	27		300
Welcome	28		350
Isabella	20		350
Kate Kearney	29		350
Belle Peoria	30		300
J. H. Lacy	June 1		350
Glasgow	2		350
Omaha	3		400
War Eagle	4		300
Chippewa Falls	5		120
Sam Gaty	5		350
Tempest	7		400
U. S. Grant	13		300
Marcella	15		300
Island City	16		200
Alone	19		200
Calypso	21		250
J. H. Lacy	July 10		250
J. C. Irwin	August 14		90
J. H. Lacy	Sept. 10		250
Effie Dean	14		250
Gen. Grant	20		200
J. H. Lacy	22		200
Kansas Valley	25		50
Total amount of tonnage			7,300

Name.	Arrival		Average Tonnage
Yellow Stone	April 2	1865	400
Deer Lodge	9		350

Benton	18	300
St. John	23	300
Gen Grant	26	350
Effie Dean	26	350
Lillie Martin	May 7	300
Kate Kearney	8	350
Twilight	8	400
J. H. Lacy	10	350
Sam Gaty	14	400
Welcome	21	300
Silver Lake	21	300
Roanoke	21	300
David Watts	22	280
J. H. Lacy	25	300
Hattie May	28	350
Fannie Ogden	28	350
A. J. Majors	30	300
T. J. McGill	31	450
Mars	June 1	300
Spray	3	300
Prairie State	3	320
Montana	10	300
Graham	11	350
R. P. Converse	13	60
Kansas Valley	14	40
Peoria	June 22	350
Spray	27	350
Marcella	30	350
Marcella	July 3	200
Cutter	returned 5	50
Omaha	5	350
Big Horn	16	300
Spray	16	300
Hattie May	August 24	300
J. H. Lacy	Sept. 11	250
Spray	12	250
Calypso	25	200
Total amount of tonnage, for 1865		12,600

The Rocky Mountain Gold Mines.

In the year 1862 gold mines were first discovered on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains in Dakota territory. The first principal settlement in the mining regions was made by a party of Californians from the west side of the mountains, who after opening the Idaho gulches, continued their prospecting eastward to the head waters of the Missouri, where in company with Capt. Fisk's overland emigrant party from Minnesota, they founded Bannock City, which soon grew to be a place of 10,000 inhabitants, but now contains only a few hundred wealthy miners engaged exclusively in grinding quartz with heavy machinery; the "gulches" having in many places, "capped" or "pinched out."

In the spring of 1863, soon after the organization of Idaho territory, gulch mining was first commenced on the Stinking water, near Virginia city. The unparalleled richness of these mines soon attracted thousands of people, and in less than one year the place had a population of nearly ten thousand people, and the territory of Montana was organized east of the mountains in the spring of 1864. The estimated amount of gold washed from the gulches of Montana in that year was eleven millions of dollars. In 1865, still further discoveries were made, near the present city of Helena, and the place soon grew to be a town of four thousand people, while the annual product of gold east of the mountains was estimated at twenty-five millions of dollars. Still more recent and richer discoveries are reported on Sun river, only forty-five miles from the head of steamboat navigation on the Missouri river, and prospecting parties are pushing their zealous explorations across the Yellowstone and Big Horn ranges towards the out-cropping spurs of the Black Hills. These traveling bands of gulch miners, with pick, spade, pan and sluice box, are the first to lead the way through streams and mountain gorge to the glittering dust, while the heavy and expensive machinery of the quartz mill follows in their track, to grind the sparkling grains from the mountains. One of these ponderous mills, erected on the ground at a cost of fifty thousand dollars,

will grind from the native quartz, a daily grist of $200 in clear gold. Twenty large quartz mills have already been carried into that mountain region, at an expense of over a million of dollars. Gov. Lyons asserts, that 3,000 gold and silver quartz ledges exist in Idaho alone. Most of the heavy freight for the mines pass up the Missouri river by steamboat to Fort Benton within 140 miles of the central mining districts. Freight to Ft. Benton is eight dollars per hundred; passage, $100 to $200. Distances along the river route to the gold mines, are as follows:

Distances by the River Route from Yankton, the capital of Dakota, to the capital of Montana:

To Niobrara, 40 miles, Mouth Niobrara River.
To Ponca agency, 44 miles, Indian village.
To Yankton agency, 54 miles, Indian village.
To Ft. Randall, 70 miles, Military post.
To Santee agency, 170 miles, Indian villages.
To Ft. Sully, 230 miles, Military post.
To Ft. Pierre, 240 miles, Trading post.
To Ft. Rice, 439 miles, Military post.
To Ft. Berthold, 635 miles, Trading post.
To Ft. Union, 803 miles, Trading post.
To Ft. Benton, 1,207 miles, Trading post.
To Sun river city, 1,372 miles, Mining town.
To Helena city, 1,369 miles, Mining town.
To Gallatin city, 1,420 miles, Mining town.
To Virginia city, 1,494 miles, Capitol of Montana.
To Montana city, 1,538 miles, Silver mines.
To Bannock city, 1,620 miles, Mining town.

Aside from the river route as above indicated, the Government has appropriated eighty-five thousand dollars for the opening of two overland routes from the Missouri river, in southern Dakota, running respectively, by way of the Niobrara and Sheyenne rivers, to the south and north of the Black Hills. These roads are now in course of construction. The distance from Yankton to Virginia city via Niobrara route is 970 miles; via Sheyenne route about the same distance. Three land-grant railroads already chartered, two from the state of Minnesota, and one from Iowa,

are destined to be built through the fertile plains of Dakota to these inexhaustible mines of the Mountains. We will not predict the future of the great valley of the Missouri, but will close with the following extract from the last official report of the U. S. Treasury Department, portraying the future of the northwest territory:

"The 'northern mines,' as they are termed, upon the sources of the Columbia and Missouri, were discovered not more than three years since, and now have a population of 30,000, of which 12,000 are east of the mountains. In addition to the Salmon river mines of Idaho, and the Missouri and Yellowstone mines of Montana, under the average longitude of 108°, it is now well ascertained that the Black Hills of Dakota Territory, situated on the 44th parallel of latitude, and between the 103d and 105th meridians of longitude, are rich in gold and silver, as well as coal, iron, copper and pine forests. With the pacification of the Sioux nation, and the establishment of emigrant roads, Dakota will be the scene of great mining excitement, as the gold field of the Black Hills is within two hundred miles of the steamboat navigation of the Missouri river, at the intersection of its channel with the forty-fifth parallel of latitude. Admitting the general sterility of the Great Plains, and the physical difficulties of the mountains, yet the great productiveness of the northern mines warrants the opinion that the Territories of Idaho, Montana and Dakota will advance in population in a ratio fully equal to that observed in Nevada and Colorado since their first settlement. The discoveries at Washoe and Pike's Peak date from 1859. Five years is the whole period of the settlement and progress of Nevada and Colorado, and within that. period each Territory has reached a permanent population of 60,000. Both have been subject to the mutations of a mining population, but each has increased at the rate of twelve thousand souls per annum. So with the Salmon river district, twenty months of productive gold mining having assembled 20,000 people, while east Idaho, or Montana, at the expiration of twelve months from the first discovery of gold on the

Jefferson fork of the Missouri, had a population of 12,000. If such a rate of accretion is accepted, the result in the year 1890, will be indicated as follows:

	1863	1870	1880	1890
Idaho	20,000	104,000	224,000	344,000
Montana	12,000	96,000	216,000	366,000
Dakota	10,000	94,000	214,000	334,000
	42,000	294,000	654,000	1,014,000

Official Directory of Dakota Territory

Names—	Location	Office
Newton Edmunds,	Yankton	Gov. & Supt. Ind. Affrs.
S. L. Spink,	Yankton	Secretary
W. A. Burleigh,	Bon Homme	Delegate in Congress
Ara Bartlett,	Yankton	Chf. Jus. Sup. Court
J. P. Kidder,	Vermillion	Associate Jus. Sup. Court
W. E. Gleeson,	Bon Homme	Associate Jus. Sup. Court
M. K. Armstrong,	Yankton	Clerk Sup. Court
L. H. Litchfield,	Yankton	U. S. Marshal
W. L. Joy,	Sioux City	Act'g U. S. Attorney
G. D. Hill,	Yankton	Surveyor General
N. Miner,	Vermillion	Reg. U. S. Land Office
J. W. Boyle,	Vermillion	Receiver U. S. Land Office
J. R. Hanson,	Yankton	Auditor
I. T. Gore,	Brule Creek	Treasurer
J. S. Foster,	Yankton	Supt. Pub. Instruction
E. C. Collins,	Elk Point	Assessor Int. Revenue
A. L. Edwards,	Elk Point	Assistant Assessor
Wm. Shriner,	Vermillion	Collector Int. Revenue
Enos Stutsman,	Yankton	Collector of Customs
G. W. Kingsbury,	Yankton	Territorial Printer
P. H. Conger,	Greenwood	Agt. Yankton Indians
J. A. Potter,	Ponca Ag'y.	Agt. Ponca Indians
J. M. Stone,	Crow Creek	Agt. Santee Sioux
M. Wilkinson,	Ft. Union	Agt. Upper Missouri
S. N. Latta,	Ft. Berthold	Agt. Middle bands etc.

Official Directory of Montana Territory

Name—	Location	Office
Sidney Edgerton,	Bannock City	Gov. and Sup. Ind. Affr's.
T. F. Meagher,	Virginia City	Secretary
Sam'l J. Lane,	Virginia City	Delegate in Congress
H. L. Hosmer,	Virginia City	Ch'f Jus. Sup. Court
L. P. Williston,	Bannock City	Associate
L. E. Munson,	Helena	Associate
Geo. M. Pinney,	Virginia City	U. S. Marshal
J. X. Beidler,	Montana City	Assistant Marshal
G. B. Neally,	Montana City	Attorney General
M. Boyd,	Virginia City	Surveyor gen. of claims
J. S. Lott,	Silver Bow	Auditor
John J. Hull,	Jefferson City	Treasurer
T. C. Everts,	Helena	Assessor
N. P. Langford,	Gallatin City	Collector
T. J. Dimsdal,	Virginia City	Sup't. pub. Instruction
Gad E. Upson,	Ft. Benton	Ag't Blackfeet Indians
Cha's Hutchins,	Jocko	Ag't. Flatheads Indians
T. J. Dimsdal,	Virginia City	Territorial Printer

Dakota Historical Society

List of Officers and Members:

Rev. M. Hoyt, President, Yankton	$7
Hon. J. B. S. Todd, Vice President, Ft. Randall	5
Hon. G. Stickney, Elk Point	5
M. K. Armstrong, Secretary, Yankton	7
G. W. Kingsbury, Treasurer, Yankton	7
J. R. Hanson, Librarian, Yankton	6
H. C. Ash, Yankton	7
D. T. Bramble, Yankton	5
W. W. Brookings, Yankton	6
J. E. Booge, Sioux City, Iowa	5
P. Bliss, St. Joseph, Mo	5
E. C. Collins, Elk Point	5
P. H. Conger, Yankton agency	5
F. J. Dewitt, Santee agency	5
Newton Edmunds, Yankton	7

J. W. Evans, Yankton..... 6
Hugh Fraley, Bon Homme..... 5
Benton Fraley, Bon Homme..... 5
J. K. Fowler, Jacksonville, Ore..... 5
J. S. Foster, Yankton..... 6
Lt. H. O. Fox, 4th U. S. Vol. Inf't..... 5
W. E. Gleeson, Ft. Randall..... 6
J. S. Gregory, Ft. Rice..... 6
H. E. Gregory, Ponca agency..... 6
Samuel Grant, Bon Homme (died Aug. 26, 1865)..... 5
L. M. Griffith, Yankton..... 5
John Hutchinson, Leghorn, Italy..... 5
J. P. Kidder, Vermillion..... 5
C. H. Kingsley, N. W. Stage agent..... 5
John Lawrence, Yankton..... 6
W. P. Lyman, Yankton.....10
C. C. P. Meyer, Yankton..... 5
M. M. Matthiesen, Yankton..... 5
Capt. M. Neely, 1st Min. cavalry..... 5
C. F. Picotte, Yankton..... 5
G. N. Propper, Yankton..... 5
G. M. Pinney, Virginia City..... 6
C. E. Rowley, Bon Homme..... 6
Enos Stutsman, Yankton..... 6
B. M. Smith, Yankton..... 7
James Tufts, Virginia City..... 5
J. W. Turner, Vermillion..... 5
G. P. Waldron, Yankton..... 5

Lectures

The following is a list of Lectures delivered before the Dakota Historical Society at Yankton since its incorporation in 1863:

M. K. Armstrong lectured December 12th, 1863. Subject—Early History of Dakota.

Geo. M. Pinney lectured December 20th, 1863. Subject—Theory of State Government.

Chief Justice P. Bliss lectured January 6th, 1864. Subject—Declaration of Independence.

Rev. M. Tingley lectured January 9th, 1864. Subject —Different Races of Men.

Rev. M. Hoyt lectured December 15th, 1864. Subject—Ancient Mythology.

Geo. M. Pinney lectured December 22d, 1864. Subject—Mind Directed Hand.

James S. Foster lectured December 29th, 1864. Subject—Education.

Byron M. Smith lectured January 5th, 1865. Subject—Early Settlement of Big Sioux Valley.

Rev. L. P. Judson lectured January 12th, 1865. Subject—Future of America.

Rev. Albert Gore lectured January 19th, 1865. Subject—Analogy between the Government of the Ancient Hebrew and that of our own.

W. W. Brookings lectured January 26th, 1865. Subject—Perpetuity of Intellectual Influence.

Rev. B. H. Golliday lectured February 2d, 1865. Subject—Life; Its Ultimate Success.

M. K. Armstrong lectured February 9th, 1865. Subject—Early Settlement of Yankton County.

J. R. Hanson lectured February 23d, 1865. Subject—Progress of Human Freedom.

Lieut. T. E. Clark lectured March 9th, 1865. Subject—Recapitulation of former lectures.

M. K. Armstrong lectured December 16th, 1865. Subject—Early Footprints of the Northwest.

Judge W. E. Gleeson lectured before the Society and House of Representatives, December 19th, 1865. Subject—Reconstruction of the Union.

Hon. S. L. Spink lectured before the Society and House of Representatives, December 27th, 1865. Subject—The Lessons of History and Antiquity.

Rev. M. Hoyt lectured January 2d, 1866. Subject—Historical Results of Revolutions.

Hon. J. B. S. Todd lectured January 12th, 1866. Subject—The Railway Systems of the Northwest.

Finances

The following is an exhibit of the Finances of the Dakota Historical Society:

Receipts

Fees of membership for forty-three members, at five dollars each	$215.00
Proceeds of two first lectures	17.25
Annual dues collected	27.00
Total Receipts	$259.25

Disbursements

Freight paid on books, pamphlets, etc	$152.00
Traveling expenses of lecturers	13.00
Fuel, lights, stationery, postage, etc	10.00
Total Disbursements	$175.00
Balance in Treasury	$ 84.25

Moses K. Armstrong, author of the preceding brief history of Dakota Territory, was born at Milan, Ohio, September 19, 1832. He was educated at Western Reserve College and entered the Civil Engineering field. He settled at Yankton in 1859 and was an active participant in the affairs of the infant territory. He served as a member of the House in the legislative assemblies of 1862, and 1862-63; he was a member of the Council in the legislative assemblies of 1865-66, 1866-67, and 1870-71, serving as presiding officer of the Council during the session of 1866-67. In 1871 he was elected delegate to Congress from Dakota Territory and remained in office until 1875. Following his congressional service he settled at St. James, Minnesota, where he established himself in the banking business. In addition to the history published in 1866 he is the author of "The Early Empire Builders of the Great West," published in 1901. Mr. Armstrong died in 1906.